

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendments to the specification and claims is respectfully requested.

In this Preliminary Amendment, applicants have added a new paragraph prior to the paragraph beginning on line 5 to positively recite that the present application is a continuation of parent application U.S. Serial No. 10/045,711, filed January 14, 2002. Applicants have also added a new paragraph after the paragraph ending on line 16 of Page 1 which states that the present application claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/261,292, filed January 12, 2001. Applicants observe that the originally executed Declaration and Power of Attorney in the present application properly claimed benefit of the above-mentioned U.S. provisional application.

In addition, the paragraphs beginning at Page 2, line 11 and at Page 3, line 9 have been amended to correct minor typographical errors. Applicants have also amended the paragraphs beginning at Page 16, line 13 and Page 17, line 1 to include reference numerals that are consistent with the reference numerals found in Figure 6.

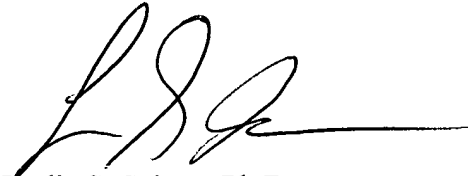
Insofar as the claims are concerned, applicants have cancelled original Claims 1-55 and have added new Claims 56-72 herein. The newly added claims are supported throughout the specification of the instant applicant. In particular, new Claim 56 is supported at Page 4, lines 12-15, in original Claims 5-7 and in Figures 1-7. Support for new Claims 57-59 is found in original Claims 2-4; support for new Claim 60 is found at Page 11, line 14-16; support for new Claims 61-66 is found at Page 21, line 16-Page 23,

line 2; support for new Claim 67 is found at Page 16, lines 13-15; and support for new Claim 68 is found in the various Examples of the present invention.

With respect to new Claims 69-72 support for those new claims is found at Page 6, lines 12-16 and in original Claims 2-7.

Since the above amendments to the claims do not introduce new matter to the instant application, entry thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Szivos', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Leslie S. Szivos, Ph.D.
Registration No. 39,394

SCULLY, SCOTT, MURPHY & PRESSER
400 Garden City Plaza
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 742-4343

LSS/sf